

Mill Roseman for Philip Morris USA 3/15/83
Draft of letter re Waxman bill -- 1: from general executive

Dear _____:

I am writing to bring to your attention, respectfully, a proposed piece of legislation which clearly violates all standards of legislative ethics, fairness and judgment.

The Bill proposed by Representative Waxman, H.R. 1824, under the guise of legislation intended to inform American consumers, actually constitutes a covert and underhanded effort at prohibition.

While purporting to provide information on the alleged health consequences of smoking, it would actually:

1. Enact by legislative fiat assumptions of a scientific nature which remain the subject of considerable difference of scientific opinion;
2. Create a vast new ~~bureau~~ ^{bureaucracy} whose function -- by legislative direction -- would be to harrass and intimidate both American consumers and legitimate business people;
3. Discriminate against a single industry -- and the farmers, manufacturing employees, distributors and retailers engaged in that industry -- in a manner never before imposed on any legal economic activity;
4. Burden the Federal budget with costs both enormous and without limit -- including authorization to purchase radio and television broadcast time -- to engage in a propaganda vendetta against one industry;
5. Lay an impossible burden on a major area of American export earnings, which would inevitably shift jobs and income to other countries.

The proposed legislation, a rehash of proposals considered and rejected by the 97th Congress, is not only discriminatory and unwise, it is also probably unconstitutional. I urge you, with the greatest respect, to accord it the repudiation it deserves.

Yours faithfully,

(signature)

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